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IN THE CLAIMS:

3. (Amended) The piezoelectric element driving circuit as set forth in claim 1, wherein the plurality of piezoelectric elements of the plurality of head units are vibrated so as to spray large ink droplets, middle ink droplets, or small ink droplets, and wherein when the small ink droplets are sprayed, the drive waveform signal is generated for a time constant that allows the number of piezoelectric elements that are simultaneously driven to become maximum.

4. (Amended) The piezoelectric element driving circuit as set forth in claim 1, wherein the head units are a yellow head unit, a magenta head unit, a cyan head unit, and a black head unit that spray yellow ink, magenta ink, cyan ink, and black ink, respectively,

wherein the head units spray large ink droplets, middle ink droplets, or small ink droplets of the individual colors corresponding to the number of piezoelectric elements of each of the head units connected to said plurality of power amplifiers and the level of the drive waveform signal, and

wherein when the small ink droplets are sprayed, the drive waveform signal is generated for a time constant that allows the number of piezoelectric elements that are simultaneously driven to become maximum.

5. (Amended) The piezoelectric element driving circuit as set forth in claim 2, wherein the plurality of piezoelectric elements of the plurality of head units are vibrated so as to spray large ink droplets, middle ink droplets, or small ink droplets, and wherein when the small ink droplets are sprayed, the drive waveform signal is generated for a time constant that allows the number of piezoelectric elements that are simultaneously driven to become maximum.

6. (Amended) The piezoelectric element driving circuit as set forth in claim 2, wherein the head units are a yellow head unit, a magenta head unit, a cyan head unit, and a black head unit that spray yellow ink, magenta in, cyan ink, and black ink, respectively,

wherein the head units spray large ink droplets, middle ink droplets, or small ink droplets of the individual colors corresponding to the number of piezoelectric elements of each of the head units connected to said plurality of power amplifiers and the level of the drive waveform signal, and

wherein when the small ink droplets are sprayed, the drive waveform signal is generated for a time constant that allows the number of piezoelectric elements that are simultaneously driven to become maximum.

7. (Amended) A piezoelectric element driving method for driving a plurality of piezoelectric elements disposed in a plurality of head units, each of which has a plurality of power amplifiers for driving the plurality of head units, a plurality of flexible flat cables for connecting the plurality of head units and said plurality of power amplifiers, and a drive waveform signal generating circuit for supplying a drive waveform signal to the plurality of head units, the method comprising the steps of:

driving the plurality of power amplifiers so as to amplify the drive waveform signal; and

causing the plurality of head units to spray large ink droplets, middle ink droplets, or small ink droplets corresponding to the drive waveform signal that is output from the drive waveform signal generating circuit,

wherein when the small ink droplets are sprayed, the time constant of the plurality of power amplifiers that are driven allows the number of piezoelectric elements that are simultaneously driven to become maximum.

10. (Amended) The piezoelectric element driving circuit as set forth in claim 9,
wherein the plurality of piezoelectric elements of the plurality of head units are
vibrated so as to spray large ink droplets, middle ink droplets, or small ink droplets, and
wherein when the small ink droplets are sprayed, the drive waveform signal is
generated for a time constant that allows the number of piezoelectric elements that are
simultaneously driven to become maximum.

11. (Amended) The piezoelectric element driving circuit as set forth in claim 9,
wherein the head units are a yellow head unit, a magenta head unit, a cyan head
unit, and a black head unit that spray yellow ink, magenta ink, cyan ink, and black ink,
respectively,

wherein the head units spray large ink droplets, middle ink droplets, or small ink
droplets of the individual colors corresponding to the number of piezoelectric elements of
each of the head units connected to said plurality of power amplifiers and the level of the
drive waveform signal, and

wherein when the small ink droplets are sprayed, the drive waveform signal is
generated for a time constant that allows the number of piezoelectric elements that are
simultaneously driven to become maximum.
